

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheet makes changes to Figs. 11 and 12 and replaces the original sheets with Figs. 11 and 12.

REMARKS

Claims 1, and 3-20 are pending in this application, with claims 5-6, 9, 11, 14-15 and 18-19 being withdrawn. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3-6, 15 and 16 are amended and claims 2 and 7 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter therein. Claim 20 is added. Claim 20 corresponds to the subject matter recited in originally filed claims 1-3. Support for the amendments to claims 1 and 16 may be found at least on page 14, line 7 to page 17, line 16, and in Figs. 2 and 3. No new matter is added by the above amendment. In view of at least the following, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

I. Interview Summary

Applicant appreciates the courtesies shown to Applicant's representatives by Examiner Lam and Examiner Tran in the December 2, 2008 personal interview. Applicant's separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

During the personal interview, Applicant's representatives discussed the proposed amendments. Applicant's representatives also discussed amending incident light to each of a plurality of incident light rays. In response, Examiner Lam and Examiner Tran confirmed that the revised proposed amendments appear to overcome the applied references.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that claim 3 is allowed, and that claim 3 contains allowable subject matter.

III. Drawing Objection

The Office Action objects to Figs. 11 and 12 for an informality. Specifically, the Office Action objects to Figs. 11 and 12 as lacking indicia that they represent Prior Art. This objection is respectfully traversed.

By this Amendment, Figs. 11 and 12 are amended to include labeling as "Prior Art" in the legend. *See* attached Replacement Sheet.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

IV. Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 2, 4, 7-8, 10, 12-13 and 16-17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 6,166,764 (Sakata). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

By this Amendment, claims 2 and 7 are canceled. Thus, the rejections as to claims 2 and 7 are moot.

It is well settled that a claim is anticipated only if each and every element set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. *See* MPEP §2131. Despite the Office Action's assertions, Sakata does not teach each and every feature presently recited in claim 1 and 16.

Independent claim 1 recites, in part, "a window that transmits incident light into the imaging device, the incident light including a plurality of incident light rays; an image pickup element configured to simultaneously pick up images in plural visual field directions; an image pickup lens disposed, in a light path of incident light transmitted through the window, between the window and a front face of the image pickup element; a first optical element disposed, in the light path of incident light transmitted through the window, between the window and a front face of the image pickup lens and having a concave lens property; and a second optical element arranged on the front face of the image pickup lens and having no concave lens property, wherein the first optical element guides lights from wide angle ranges in partial visual field directions among the plural visual field directions onto the image pickup element via the image pickup lens, wherein the second optical element guides lights from non-wide angle ranges in the remaining visual field directions among the plural visual field directions onto the image pickup element via the image pickup lens, and wherein each of the

plurality of incident light rays that is transmitted through the window is only guided through one of the first optical element and the second optical element."

Independent claim 16 recites, in part, "an imaging device disposed at a front portion or at a rear portion of a vehicle; an image processing section configured to perform predetermined image processing with respect to an image picked up by the imaging device; and a display device arranged within the vehicle and displaying the image processed by the image processing section, wherein the imaging device comprises: a window that transmits incident light into the imaging device, the incident light including a plurality of incident light rays; an image pickup element configured to simultaneously pick up images in plural visual field directions; an image pickup lens disposed, in the light path of incident light transmitted through the window, between the window and a front face of the image pickup element; a first optical element disposed, in the light path of incident light transmitted through the window, between the window and a front face of the image pickup lens and having a concave lens property; a second optical element arranged on the front face of the image pickup lens and having no concave lens property, and wherein the first optical element guides lights from wide angle ranges in partial visual field directions among the plural visual field directions onto the image pickup element via the image pickup lens, wherein the second optical element guides lights from non-wide angle ranges in the remaining visual field directions among the plural visual field directions onto the image pickup element via the image pickup lens, and wherein each of the plurality of incident light rays that is transmitted through the window is only guided through one of the first optical element and the second optical element."

Sakata fails to anticipate or render obvious the above-quoted features recited in claims 1 and 16. For example, Sakata fails to anticipate or render obvious that incident light rays travel through only one of the first optical element and the second optical element. Sakata likewise fails to disclose that although some light rays may travel through the first optical

element, and some light rays travel through the second optical element, no light rays travel through both the first optical element and the second optical element. Thus, Sakata fails to disclose each and every element recited in claims 1 and 16.

Claims 4, 8, 10, 12-13 and 17 variously depend from claims 1 and 16. Because Sakata fails to anticipate or render obvious the features recited in independent claims 1 and 16, dependent claims 4, 8, 10, 12-13 and 17 are patentable for at least the reasons that claims 1 and 16 is patentable, as well as for the additional features they recite.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

V. New Claims

By this Amendment, claim 20 is added. Claim 20 is allowable because it recites the acknowledged allowable subject matter of originally filed claim 3.

Accordingly, allowance of the claim is respectfully requested.

VI. Rejoinder

Pursuant to MPEP §821.04, if the non-elected claims otherwise require all the limitations of an allowable claim, rejoinder of non-elected claims that include all the limitations of allowed product claims is permitted. Accordingly, upon allowance of claims 1 and 16, rejoinder of claims 5-6, 9, 11, 14-15 and 18-19 is respectfully requested.

VII. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:DQS/amt

Attachment:
Replacement Sheet

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